

House File 876 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 876

BY GAINES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for a teacher licensure renewal requirement
2 relating to cultural competency training.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 272.2, subsection 1, Code 2021, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* Establish as a renewal requirement
4 for a standard license the completion of two clock hours
5 of training in a course relating to cultural competency.
6 For purposes of this paragraph, "*cultural competency*" means
7 awareness and understanding of the values, lifestyles, history,
8 and contributions of various identifiable cultural groups in
9 society; recognizing and dealing with dehumanizing biases such
10 as sexism, racism, prejudice, and discrimination and raising
11 awareness of the impact that such biases have on interpersonal
12 relationships; recognizing the ways in which dehumanizing
13 biases may be reflected in instructional materials; and
14 acquiring strategies to manage students from different cultures
15 in a classroom setting.

16 EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill directs the board of educational examiners to
20 establish, as a renewal requirement for a standard license,
21 the completion of two clock hours of training in a course
22 relating to cultural competency. The bill defines cultural
23 competency as awareness and understanding of the values,
24 lifestyles, history, and contributions of societal cultural
25 groups; recognizing certain dehumanizing biases and their
26 impact on interpersonal relationships and their reflection in
27 instructional materials; and acquiring strategies to manage
28 students from different cultures in a classroom setting.